



ALEXANDRIA:

SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 1, 1860.

ONE THING that ought to open the eyes of the Northern States to the true condition of affairs is, that whilst the Conservative portion of the people of the South condemn and deprecate the separate secession action of South Carolina, which has prevented the Southern States from consulting together for the common good, and look upon her course, as improper to the other Southern States, there is no sort of palliation or excuse offered or suggested, in any quarter in the South, for the past course of most of the Northern States; and no attempt made to conceal the fact, that unless that course is changed, and a strictly Constitutional and friendly plan of action be adopted, the Disunion sentiment, largely on the increase in some quarters, will ultimately prevail, and array the South against the North in such a manner as to certainly cause the establishment of a Southern Confederacy—a Central Union—or separate and Independent Republics. It is more than probable that if South Carolina, Georgia, and one or two other states, instead of going off upon separate State Secession, had adopted the Conservative State Rights positions of Stephens, Hill, and Johnson, in Georgia, the whole South would, at this day, have been united, and in active concert, to save the Union by demanding and securing the just rights of the South—or failing in that arranging for a peaceable (if possible) dissolution of the existing national government. So that, these Northern States must bear in mind, in resisting separate State Secession, without consultation or regard to others' rights, interests, and feelings, the most Conservative men of the South, and those most opposed to Disunion, as pointedly and warily condemn the course of the majority of the Northern States, as do actual Disunionists—and are as firmly satisfied that they must alter it, and agree to conform strictly to the Constitution, faithfully to obey the Laws, and to allow justice and equality to each and all the States. There is, in truth, a united sentiment in the South now, on the subject of Northern sectionalism, opposition to law, and unfriendly procedure generally. Those who have committed wrongs must not look upon the efforts of Union and conservative men, (to prevent hasty, ill judged present action, and to preserve if it can be honorably done, a Constitutional Union), as lending them the least countenance, as failing to recognize the enormity of their conduct, or as hesitating to regard them as the worst of Disunionists and Destructives.

A letter from Liberty, Bedford county, Va., gives us an account of the "Liberty Paint Bank," within two miles of the Liberty Depot, on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad. The bank is represented as containing the richest pigment, presenting the seven original colors, and the paint has been tested and approved by the best chemists in the country. Its excellent qualities for the painting of wood, iron, or tin. The bank is owned by Mr. Hugh White. Specimens of the pigment can be seen at this office.

Mr. Clay said, in the opening of one of his great speeches in the Senate, whilst opposing the measures of the Administration in power, at that time—"We are in the midst of a revolution, hitherto bloodless." That is emphatically the case now. Caleb Cushing enforced the idea in his speech at Newburyport, a few days ago. Let the Northern people hear and hearken. They must not close their eyes and their ears, to so awful a truth.

The New York Tribune seems to object to and oppose all efforts at conciliation, and all attempts to preserve the Union, by the inauguration of a constitutional course, on the part of the Northern States. If its counsels prevail, we cannot expect peace. It would seem that it desires to see the government broken up, and a Northern Confederacy formed. It is by following such advice as the Tribune gives, that the country has been brought to the brink of ruin.

In reply to a letter addressed to them by Mr. Tyler, one of the editors of the Richmond Enquirer, Hon. James M. Mason, and Hon. H. L. Hopkins have written letters in favor of holding a State Convention, in the present crisis of affairs. Letters have been addressed to Senator Hunter, Gov. Floyd, Robt. E. Scott, G. W. Summers, Geo. W. Brent, and others, by Mr. Tyler, to elicit their opinions. No answers have been received as yet from them.

That "bitching on," was an unfortunate "figure of speech." A gentleman from an adjoining county, rather favorable to Secession—though he does not think the time has exactly come yet, for Virginia, good humoredly says,—"I confess I do not like myself the idea of being 'bitched on' to South Carolina, no less volens. I prefer to judge for myself. 'To hitch' intelligent men is only to make them kick and refuse to pull."

Judge McLean, in giving his opinion in a fugitive slave case which came before him, in 1859, made the following statement:—"Without a provision on the subject, no constitution could have been adopted. I speak from information received from the late Chief Justice Marshall, who was one of the chief actors in that day, than whom no man then living was of higher authority."

In Washington, the price of gas used after the 31st of December, 1860, will be only \$3 15 per thousand feet to all prompt paying consumers, instead of \$3.50 as heretofore.

A meeting was held at King and Queen C. H., on the 10th ult. The Committee on Resolutions made a long report, terminating with three resolutions. The report, which declared Lincoln's election not a sufficient cause for dissolution, was laid on the table, but the resolutions were unanimously adopted. They recommended first, that the Governor call the Legislature together immediately; second, that Virginia invite a conference of the Southern States; and third, that the Legislature appoint delegates "to meet their Northern brethren in conference." In Amelia county, on the 22d ult., a public meeting of the Legislature to call a State Convention, and asking the Governor to convene the Legislature early in December. In Gloucester county, on the 19th, a public meeting adopted a resolution suggesting to Gov. Letcher to call the Legislature together on the 1st of December. Other resolutions also adopted, declare that "the election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency is an open and official avowal by a popular majority of the North, and of the nation, that the past aggressions of Black Republicanism are right; and that aggressions against our rights are to be persisted in with great aggravation." At a meeting held at Edinburg, Shenandoah county, on the 24th ult., the following resolutions were adopted:—"That we concur in the suggestion of calling a National Convention, with a view to the adjustment of the difficulties that now surround us. That whilst we respect the patriotic determination of our more Southern brethren, to resist all further aggression, as well as to demand redress for the past, we would affectionately ask them to stay their action until the last hope of a patient and forbearing people is exhausted by the prompt refusal of their constitutional rights or the passage of a final settlement of the great question. That we recommend the passage of such laws, and such action on the part of our citizens, as will place the State of Virginia in a condition of independence of the North, by encouraging home manufactures, and direct trade with all foreign countries."

The Philadelphia Inquirer reviews the "Personal Liberty laws" of several of the Northern States, exposes the malignant subtlety which seeks to disguise their actual nullification features, and asks, whether such laws should stand in the face of the judgment of the Supreme Court in the case of *Griggs*, so frequently referred to, which declared that the rendition clause in the Constitution "manifestly contemplates the existence of a positive, unqualified right on the part of the owner of the slave, which no State law or regulation can in any way qualify, regulate, control or restrain." The Philadelphia Ledger says:—"So far as these personal liberty acts of the North are any of them in violation of the Constitution and laws of the United States, they are null and void—a dead letter whether repealed or not, and every attempted execution of them subjects each agent to punishment by the United States authorities, and the laws of the States might even be made to go further, and reach not only every sheriff or constable executing a law that is unconstitutional, but every State Judge giving judgment, and every Governor and Secretary and officer, whose name was attached to the unconstitutional bill."

In his letter to Mr. Vail, of Philadelphia, referred to in an article published in yesterday's Gazette, Gov. Letcher says:—"If the Union is to be preserved, it is necessary that all causes of complaint, irritation and dissatisfaction, shall be speedily removed. In the present condition of affairs, delay ends in destruction. If the non-slaveholding States desire to save the Constitution from overthrow, and the confederacy from dissolution, let them 'show their faith by their works.' Let them repeal at once all statutes, which are injurious to the rights and interests of their Southern fellow-citizens, and which are in any degree calculated, to embarrass them, in the recovery of fugitive slaves. This cannot be done a moment too soon, and I urge you and all other conservative men in your section, to act without delay, and show to the South, that you really desire the preservation of the Union. You can do much to allay the excitement now existing, to restore concord and fraternal feeling, to revive lost confidence between the sections, and you owe it to yourselves, to your country, and to those who are to succeed you, to do your duty and your whole duty, promptly and faithfully."

The Raleigh N. C. Standard, whose editor was a Delegate to the Democratic Convention at Baltimore, and who, we believe, originally favored Douglas, but subsequently came out in support of Breckinridge, has lost his election as State Printer of North Carolina, the Democrats refusing to give him the post again. He is indignant at the treatment he has received—and particularly severe upon the Disunionists in his State. He thus exclaims:—"We denounce and defy the disunionists, and we will make war upon them until the people of this State, of all parties, shall rise in their might and teach them, and touch all professional and designing politicians that their property, their fortunes, their lives, and the integrity of the federal Constitution shall not be subjected to the control of demagogues lust for power and for new places in a Southern Union. Our reliance is on the people. If they will stand by us in the struggle, as we believe they will, we shall fear no consequences."

The New York Journal of Commerce is discussing what shall be done in the event of "Secession." "Nothing," is, in substance, the answer. The Government is one of opinion, not of force,—but is the opinion of one State, Public Opinion? "The position of these in charge of the Administration of the General Government, when the day of trial questions will arise, new to our own country and to the world; momentous in their character, involving fearful consequences to the people of the United States, and possibly to the happiness or misery of millions of human beings in other parts of the world, for if this great and promising attempt to demonstrate the practicability of a government of the people by the people, shall fail, the hope of a liberation of the downtrodden inhabitants of other nations from their oppressors, will be entangled, if not entirely destroyed."

The Staunton Spectator says, as "the Legislature of Virginia are only elected for administering, not establishing government, if there be a majority at the extra session in favor of holding a Convention, let the question, 'Convention or no Convention,' be submitted to the voice of the people who alone have the power to say whether such a body shall be held or not—the day of decision being postponed sufficiently long to give the people time to canvass the important questions which would be likely to engage the attention of the members of that body. If they determine by vote in favor of 'Convention' they should then, at some appointed time, elect their Representatives."

In Dr. Herford's communication on the subject of Diphtheria, published in the Gazette of the 6th ult., the words Sulphate of Lime, should read Sulphate of Zinc; and for Sul Ammoniac read Sul Ammoniac or Muratic Acid.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

"To show the very age and body of the times." The Petersburg Express, which takes no part in party politics, but is true to Southern interests and Southern rights, says:—"We cannot for the life of us discern in this high-handed, imperious course of South Carolina, the slightest deference or regard for the sentiments and interests of a single other State. She has become maddened to frenzy under offences that have been equally committed against Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina and Tennessee—yet in these States we see no information—no determination instant to break up the common government—no signs of an irrepressible conflict—but we see those who think it far more creditable, viz: a profound sense of the dreadful exigency which is upon them, and a cool, calm and resolute purpose to have their rights secured by new and inflexible guarantees, or, failing in this, to take redress in their own hands. This they will do without any blustering and without any parade of a pompous lordliness that superciliously scoffs upon possibilities even of preserving the republic."

At St. Louis, about 4 o'clock on Sunday morning, Gen. B. G. Pratt was awakened by the creaking of one of the windows opening upon the piazza. The General seized his pistol, and as the burglar entered the window, fired and shot him through the left breast. To a policeman who picked him up he stated, that having been returning from St. Louis, he was trying to enter the window. It turned out that he was recently pardoned out of the penitentiary.

Considerable excitement has been caused at Oswego Co., New York, by a most extraordinary case. Elder Salisbury, pastor of the M. E. Church there, who has been an eloquent and worthy preacher of the Gospel for some forty-five years, and a presiding Elder for some sixteen years, residing at Central Square in said county, having voted for Mr. Douglas at the late Presidential election was excommunicated by his church.

Bishop Clark, of Rhode Island, delivered a sermon in Grace Church, Providence, on Sunday morning, on the state of the country, in which, after portraying the extravagance of both Northern and Southern fanatics, he says—"If such counsels rule, our case is hopeless. Let those who have a real interest in the preservation of harmony and peace rise and take these matters out of the control of men who get their living by agitation."

An organized gang of incendiaries, it is stated, has been discovered at Manchester, Ohio, whose purpose is to burn depots and buildings of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad Company, at various points. Three men, formerly employees of the Company, have been arrested.

The New York Tribune is unwilling to concede anything to the South, so long as the South talks of secession. Says the Tribune—"The Free States will not be bullied." The question arises, would the Tribune under any circumstances respect the just demands of the South? The answer is—no.

There is nothing cheering from the South we are sorry to see and hear. Mississippi and Alabama correspondence is gloomy in the extreme. Our prayer is that ere long peace and confidence may be restored to the whole country.

Cassius M. Clay is again spoken of as Secretary of War in the Lincoln Cabinet. Some of the "Republican" papers are chucking at the idea of such an appointment. Others think that Mr. Lincoln will not venture to appoint Clay.

Capt. Travis, the famous pistol shot, fired a bullet at the rhinoceros exhibited at the circus in Memphis, to show the resistance of the animal's hide. The bullet fell flattened and the animal remained unharmed.

It is estimated that locomotive engines annually consume the wood from one hundred and fifty thousand acres of land; in twenty years equal to three millions of acres.

The East Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, will assemble in Chambersburg, Pa., in the latter part of February, and remain in session eight days.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The Prince of Wales, by the length of his voyage, missed the celebration of his nineteenth birthday, Nov. 9th, which was very enthusiastic. He also missed meeting the Perkin Warbeck style of individual who tried to assume his titles and prerogatives during his absence. For on the 11th November, a young gentleman of respectable appearance and address presented himself at the gate on Castle Hill.

The sentinels stopped him, telling him it was the entrance only for the royal family, on which the stranger said "I am the Prince of Wales." The sentinels, thinking from his gentlemanly manners that this was the truth, presented arms and permitted him to pass. In this way he passed several sentinels; but in one of the interior passages of the castle was met by one of the royal servants who inquired his business. "I am the Prince of Wales," he said, "and am going to see my mother the Queen." The servant said he would accompany him, and calling the superintendent, they discovered the stranger to be an insane youth of some twenty years of age, named Harding, who had been recently discharged from a private lunatic asylum.

The Valley Democrat says—"The position which the citizens of this county occupy at present cannot fail to meet with the approbation of all. They are for the Union, so long as it can be honorably preserved, and are not unwilling to do anything that will settle the question honorably and satisfactorily."

The jury in the case of the Commonwealth vs. W. W. Hardwick, charged with the killing of Joseph Button, on the 23d day of June last, in Lynchburg failed to agree.—They being unable to agree, were discharged on Thursday evening, and the accused was held to bail for further trial.

John W. Lewis, charged with killing Ed. Kenna, at Charleston, Kanawha county Virginia, about four years ago, came back a few days since, and delivered himself up for trial. The magistrate to whom he presented himself, held him to bail in the sum of \$500.

William Garth, Esq., a prominent and highly esteemed citizen of Albemarle, died suddenly, at his residence, last Tuesday morning. He was one of the Delegates to the Legislature from that county at the time of his death.

No less than eight mad dogs were killed last week in the upper end of Rockbridge county, and several hogs were bitten by them. A dog supposed to be mad was also killed in Lexington on Monday morning.

The Warrenton Play says:—"We met with a number of our citizens on Monday which had on the blue cockade. It is a pretty little society, that is becoming popular in its locality."

VIRGINIA NEWS.

CULPEPER COURT HOUSE.—Among the numerous country towns which are improved and benefited by railroads, Culpeper Court House attracts particular attention. Before the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, it was one of the dullest looking inland towns in Virginia, but now it is one of the most flourishing places; the citizens of the town being energetic and public spirited, holding out every inducement to merchants and business men to settle among them. Messrs. McCoy & Son, of Staunton, have established there a large Carriage Factory and Repository, and keep constantly a fine assortment of Carriages and Buggies on hand. Messrs. Jones & Henderson, of Page, are erecting a large Tobacco Factory. The Virginia Hotel kept by Mr. Rixey, is one of the best kept country hotels in the State, is visited by numerous families from the North and South to spend the summer. Many merchants, &c., &c., keep large stocks of goods of all kinds.—*Tenth Legion.*

The November (Quarterly) Term of Fairfax County Court was in session three days. The Grand Jury found six indictments, nearly all for assault. Felix Quander, (colored) was tried for an assault on George Smith (also colored) with an intent to disfigure the said Smith by biting off a portion of his upper lip, and acquitted.

James A. Faulkner, Captain, with seven privates, were appointed a patrol in the Langley neighborhood. Chas. W. Turley, Captain, and nine privates, in the Pryor's neighborhood. R. D. Vowles, Captain, and nine privates, at Sangster's Station. Simpson Purney, Captain, and twelve privates, at Centerville. James W. Jackson, Captain, and twenty-five privates, at Fairfax C. H.

Twenty-seven Deeds were admitted to record. There were forty-one office judgments confirmed. Fifteen jury cases were tried. Mr. J. W. Jackson declines acting as Captain.

In the United States Circuit Court, at Richmond, on Tuesday, the Grand Jury returned the following indictments: Against John Gaskins, for purloining letters, a true bill in four counts. An indictment against Frederick Brooks, a free negro, for stealing letters, a true bill. Against Francisco Padrone Calleras, for being engaged in the African slave trade on board the Storm King, a true bill. Against Joseph Silva, for the same, a true bill. Against Antonio Fernandez, for the same, a true bill. Against John Lockhart, (captain of the vessel) for the same, a true bill. Against the same, for a misdemeanor, (in connection with the same vessel) a true bill in two counts. The Grand Jury returned a true bill in the case of Henry White, William Warner, James Gilmore and William Spencer alias Cranston, crew of said vessel.

The citizens of Page, without distinction of party, held a public meeting on Monday last, on the present condition of the country. The meeting was presided over by Col. Maan Spidler. J. M. Bell, esq., presented a series of well written and conservative resolutions, deprecating the present condition of the country, and pleading for moderation and peace. John Lomberger, esq., addressed the meeting, in a few practical remarks, and urged the South to wait for an "overt act," when the South would be a unit for resistance.

Maj. P. B. Borst also addressed the meeting in a very creditable and conservative speech. He did not think a secession existed at present to dissolve the Union, and considered precipitate action as ill-advised, and would inevitably breed dissensions in the South.

Mr. John Rucker, of Lynchburg, made a good speech in land some few years past, the Orange and Alexandria Railroad Depot being located on a portion of the purchase. Mr. R. paid \$3,500 for 42 acres, and sold one acre and a quarter to said Company for the sum of \$30,000, and now holds the residue, for which he has been offered a still larger sum. The improvements which are now progressing in this locality will shortly make this the most valuable property in the city.

Monday last was Orange quarterly Court. A number of cases of the Commonwealth against different persons for the selling of ardent spirits without license were tried, and resulted in judgments for the Commonwealth for costs. The Court appointed a patrol to visit in the neighborhood of Henshaw's shop, for three months, all negro quarters and other places suspected of having therein unlawful assemblies, and such sales as may result from one plantation to another.

From the Winchester papers we learn that a call has been made for a public meeting to be held in that town, on next Monday, (Court-day,) to take into consideration the condition of our national affairs.

The first snow of the season commenced falling here early on the morning of last Friday and continued until nearly the middle of the day, but by night it all thawed away.

The last Winchester Republican says that "an individual from an adjoining county," made his appearance on the streets in that place the other day, with a blue cockade mounted in his cap; but that he was forced to leave a hasty retreat, minus his blue cockade, by a large crowd of archbishops who pursued him with remarkable pertinacity.

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The Bank of Rockingham suspended specie payment last week. This action, on the part of our Bank, was caused by suspensions all over the country.

VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE.—NINTH DAY.

[Reported for the ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.] The Conference met at 9 o'clock, and was opened with religious exercises. The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

The Bishop took up the first question of the Discipline, "who are admitted on trial." The following names were presented: N. G. Starr, recommended by the Quarterly Conference of the Providence Circuit. He was described as the son of a member of the Conference, a graduate of Randolph Macon College, and admitted.

James W. Connelly, recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Brunswick circuit, and admitted. R. L. Scott, recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Mecklenburg Circuit, and admitted.

James T. Still recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Gloucester Circuit and admitted. The following gentlemen were then recommended and admitted.

J. L. Chamberlain, J. S. Lindsay, J. L. Shipley, L. P. Crowell, H. C. Bowles, Jas. W. Compton, Geo. M. Roberts, and James W. Paine.

The Bishop in the course of his examination, said that never before had he such difficulties in making the appointments. The Conference field had been divided into small stations and Circuits. The stations wanted an unmarried preacher, the Circuits required two preachers but could not support a married man and a single one. Yet the Conference was constantly admitting married men on trial; there were now thirty places for single men and no single men to fill them, and as many married men for whom no suitable stations could be found. The press of married men had become burdensome.

Rev. Dr. Lee said the first speech he ever made in conference was in defence of a young brother who had broken the law, then existing forbidding preachers to marry until after being two years in the Conference. Since then, he had been regarded as the Attorney General in all such cases. (Merriment.) But he must warn the young brethren that hereafter they must work as long as Jacob did for Rachel, (merriment) and be certain that they did not then make a mistake and get Leah. (laughter.)

Bishop Payne said that Dr. Lee had formerly acted like an editor desiring of conciliating good will, but now he spoke like a presiding elder knowing all the difficulties experienced in the troubles of ecclesiastical administration.

The Bishop then took up the question, "who are readmitted?"—and the following names were presented and admitted.

Thos. S. Campbell, John Williamson.

Upon the consideration of one of the cases a discussion took place upon the propriety of admitting foreign ministers into the connection upon a short acquaintance with them.

Messrs. Bennett, Joyner, Smith, Rosser and others participated in the discussion.—Some brethren insisting that the Conference should be extremely careful lest for usefulness in the American Ministry. Others thought that the case immediately before the Conference was ample evidence of the possession of all the qualities necessary to insure usefulness, and the candidate was admitted.

The character of H. Billups was passed, and a supernumerary relation given him. The appropriation made in his case by the Finance Committee was approved.

H. D. Wood's name was called and his character passed, and a supernumerary relation granted him.

H. E. Johnson's character was passed and a location granted him.

Jos. Spriggs, Jas. Carson, H. P. Nelson were granted supernumerary relations.

Rev. Dr. Lee made a report upon certain fiscal matters of the Conference, stating that there were in the hands of the Trustees of the supernumerary preacher's fund, \$124.80. The report was accepted and the money ordered to be paid to the Finance Committee.

The same gentleman also, reported \$66.57 in the hands of the Trustees of the Widow's and Orphan's fund, of which the Conference ordered a like disposition.

Rev. Dr. Lee made a strong appeal for the settlement of the accounts of the Old Deputizing.

On motion of Dr. Smith, the Conference took up the order of the day, being his report in reply to the fraternal communication of the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Protestant church, and the report having been read, as published in yesterday's Gazette.

Rev. Dr. Smith said he was happy to learn that it would be but a short time before the appointments were announced, and that as much business was to be done, the Conference was pressed for time. He deprecated discussion on this report, not only for the reason mentioned, but because the question was an extremely delicate one, and general discussion would be impolitic. He was, however, very willing to answer any questions in relation to the report.

Rev. Mr. Manning made an inquiry as to what was meant by certain references to lay co-operation in the report.

Dr. Smith responded that it was the intent of the report, to say to the Methodist Protestant church that "the general adoption of a plan of lay co-operation by Conference of the Southern church, should show you that while you have modified your views of Episcopacy, we have, also modified our plans in the matter of lay representation.—If this should induce you to think that reunion is desirable and practicable, we shall be happy to reciprocate your views and to aid you in carrying out our joint wishes." This was the idea the report was designed to convey.

Rev. Mr. Rosser said that he did not desire to prolong the session of the Conference but he had objections to the report. First, the report went further than the Methodist Protestant Church desired to go. He had been particular to note the language of the fraternal messenger, and he had said: "We desire that no step be taken further than fraternal interchange." Neither was he willing to place the proposed union upon the ground of the expected adoption of "lay co-operation" in the southern church. He thought that plans for union should not be made by parts of churches—lest they be considered the heralds of change and fomenters of innovation. He moved to strike out the following from the second resolution:—"We take pleasure in assuring them that if our plan of lay co-operation, (now so generally adopted in our Annual Conferences), and the encouragement which the success of the scheme offers, to believe that the policy of co-operation will be fully established at no distant day, should, in our judgment, furnish a basis of union sufficiently encouraging to justify the opinion that a full and cordial reunion could be effected, we shall be happy on our own behalf as a Conference to entertain the proposition favorably, and if necessary to co-operate with them in submitting, anything that may be deemed important to submit to our General Conference in April, 1862, and in earnestly seeking the success of that measure."

Rev. Dr. Smith said he had kept no account of the statement of Dr. McQuinn, but he thought Mr. Rosser had mistaken the scope and intent of the language he had quoted from the speech of that gentleman. He thought the way to union having been opened by a fraternal messenger from that Conference the invitation to union should come from the M. E. Conference. He had, in the struggles of 1828, presided at the trials in Lynchburg which resulted in the dismemberment of one of the most valuable churches which was sacrificed in that contest. Even then he had favored lay co-operation, and he had maintained those principles ever since, yet it had led to no

schism on his part. In Alexandria alone the interests of what was even dearer than Methodism—a common christianity—would be immensely advanced by the union. It would be a great thing, if in the present distracted state of the country, this Conference could smooth the path to Christian Union. He examined the assurances the resolutions gave the Methodist Protestant church, and showed that they were true in fact, and argued at length that the promises given were such as could properly be made by this Conference.

Rev. Dr. Lee said that the result of Mr. Rosser's amendment would be to strike out from the resolution all that portion of which might lead to a reunion of parties who perhaps should never have been separated.

Mr. Rosser declined any such intention, and in the course of a further colloquy, Mr. Rosser said his object was to get rid of language of which he disapproved.

Dr. Lee said he liked that language and thought that its evident tendency was to bring about a union of Methodism in the Southern Confederacy. Southern States.—(Laughter.) Dr. Lee, a lapsus linguae—coming even sometimes cast their shadows before. He continued at length, explaining the historical position of the question and of the fraternal messengers which had passed between the Virginia Conferences of the two churches. We had just reached the point at which both the churches might unite and become one. He thought that the old issues were nearly all dead. They were willing to take the Methodist Episcopacy and presiding eldership; the only one remaining, was lay-representation. To that point he said was arduous and will come as certainly as the year eighteen hundred and something. It would come quietly, without revolution, in a settled conviction which was fast growing on the mind of the South. In these times there was no marriage without a courtship and yet Brother Rosser objected to the courtship of a bride which all admitted to be fair—worth a thousand wooings. He did not want a marriage contract preliminary. He liked the principle of his uncle Jesse Lee, who addressed a widow lady, but whom he was prevented from marrying, by a demand for a marriage contract. "He had no idea," he said, "of an old goose with all the feathers plucked." He closed with a fervent appeal against the amendment.

The hour of closing having arrived, pending the debate the Conference adjourned until 3 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Conference met at 3 o'clock, and was opened with the usual religious exercises, and the minutes of the morning session read.

The report of Rev. Dr. Smith was laid on the table, temporarily.

The Conference then took a short recess to enable the Sunday School society to transact some business, and afterwards to allow a meeting of the Relief Society.

Mr. Paul, from the committee on Finance, made a report in relation to the fund of the Conference, and by order of the Conference, the distribution of the funds took place during the session, occupying nearly a hour.

The Conference then took a recess to allow of a meeting of the Book and Tract Society.

When the Conference re-assembled, Rev. Mr. Stanley moved that the Conference adjourn to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Rev. Mr. Cowles moved as a substitute that when Conference adjourn it be to meet at 7 o'clock this evening.

The substitute was agreed to.

On motion of Rev. J. E. Edwards, the Conference proceeded to fix the place for the next meeting of the Conference.

Rev. Dr. Lee had proposed Norfolk at the morning session.

Rev. Mr. Cowles proposed Lynchburg. Rev. Mr. Edwards proposed Petersburg. Upon show of hands, Norfolk was chosen, and the decision was afterwards made unanimous by a rising vote.

Rev. Mr. Bennett then announced that at breakfast, this morning, Rev. Robt. Nixon had been stricken with paralysis, and had not spoken since. He said he had no doubt that it would be most grateful to the feelings of the stricken brother to know that he was remembered by the Conference. He hoped the Conference would unite in prayer.

The congregation then knelt, and Dr. Smith addressed the throne of grace for the afflicted; and after singing a hymn, the Conference adjourned until 7 o'clock P. M.

NINTH SESSION.

The Conference assembled at 7 o'clock, and was opened with the usual religious exercises.

Rev. Dr. Smith was called to the Chair. Rev. Mr. Head moved the appointment of a committee of five on the State of the Church, to prepare and report to the next session, a "Pastoral Address," which motion was agreed to.

Rev. Mr. DuVal moved that a collection be taken up for the benefit of the Sexton, which was agreed to, and a large collection was accordingly taken up.

Mr. P. A. Peterson moved a vote of thanks to the people of Alexandria and Washington, for their hospitalities which was agreed to, unanimously, by a rising vote.

On motion of Messrs. Head and Joyner, the thanks of the Conference were returned to the ministers for the use of their pulpits, and the Railroad companies for free return tickets.

Rev. Mr. Cowles, Chairman of the Publishing Committee, recommended the raising of \$5,000, in support of the Richmond Christian Advocate, by a plea for specific amounts on the part of preachers and individuals; the preachers to collect the amount pledged, be returned by the lat of May. They also recommended a Publishing Committee of five ministers, who be requested to invite five laymen to co-operate with them in taking charge of the Advocate.

Messrs. D. S. Doggett, N. Head, W. B. Rowzie, J. A. Duncan, and J. D. Blackwell, to be the clergermen, and they were requested to ask the co-operation of J. S. Walker, and Alfred Lee, of Richmond, D. Arcey Paul Davis, of Petersburg, W. K. Sutherland, of Danville, and K. M. Smith, of Alexandria, in the work.